

February 2017

Land Grant Application- Hemenway, David (Hubbardston)

David Hemenway

Polly Hemenway

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Wm. H. H. H.
Wm. H. H. H.
Wm. H. H. H.



J. L. Edwards,
Commr. of Pensions,

FREE

Hon. Levi Lincoln,
Boston,
Massachusetts.

Letter concerning
Polly Hemmings claim for
a Pension

Polly Hemmings
Widow of
David Hemmings

Pension Office,

April 21. 1841.

Sir,

In compliance with your request I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of the papers of Mr. Polly Hemenway upon which she was allowed a pension under the Act of July 7. 1838. In addition to the proof they afford, our documents shew that he was paid a bounty of £100. by a class in Barre to serve three years as one of the quota of that Town, required to fill up the Massachusetts line in 1781, and that he entered the service on the 20th of January 1781. The parol testimony was deemed sufficient to prove that he served to the fall of 1783, when the three years men of 1781 were discharged. The specifications of the latter part of his service were not sufficiently definite to afford the necessary data for tracing his service on the rolls to the period of discharge, and therefore the parol proof was admitted.

Hon. Levi Lincoln,
Boston,
Massachusetts.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Yours Obt. Serv.
J. L. Edwards

I hereby certify, That the accompanying pages numbered
from one to eleven, inclusive, are truly copied from the originals
in the Office of the Commissioner of Pensions, Department
of War.

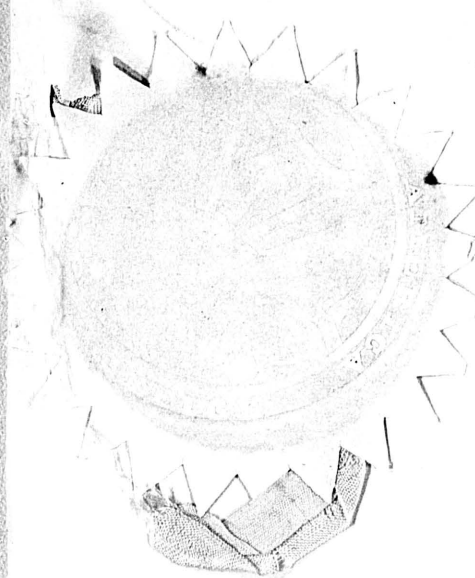
J L Edwards
Commissioner of Pensions.

Be it remembered, That James L. Edwards, who has signed
the foregoing certificate, is Commissioner of Pensions; and that to
his attestations full faith and credit are and ought to be given.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto
subscribed my name, and caused the seal
of the Department to be affixed, on
this twentieth day of April
in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and ~~thirty~~ forty-one.

Wm. T. Allen

Secretary of War.



(Copy.)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Worcester, ss:

I, Charles S. Kentip, Register of the Court of Probate for the County of Worcester, do certify that Ira M. Barton is the Judge of said Court, duly commissioned and qualified, and that his signatures to the papers hereto annexed are genuine.

In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court this twenty-seventh day of August one thousand eight hundred and forty.

Seal

Chas^s. Kentip Register.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

County of Worcester, ss.

On this twenty-sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty, personally appeared before the Court of Probate for said County, Polly Hemenway, a resident of Hubbardston, in said County, aged seventy-six, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of David Hemenway, late of Heath, in the County of Franklin, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, who was a Sergeant in the army of the Revolution, and served, as nearly as she is able to state, as follows, to wit: her said husband belonged to the town of Barre, in said County, when he went into the service, and she belonged to the town of Holden in the same County, and although she had no personal knowledge of his Revolutionary services, yet she has heard him say, and she verily believes that he served in the whole as much as four years.

The first service of which she had any evidence, was at Bennington in the year 1777, for about six weeks, in the company of Captain Stockwell, and regiment of Col. Lushington, as set forth in the deposition of Jason Hawes. But she verily believes he was in other service before this, but she is wholly unable at present to specify or prove it.

The last service he was in, was as a three years' or during war's man, commencing in the year 1781, and terminating with the war. She has been unable to find any one who served with him, but she is satisfactorily informed that he went into the same company and regiment with the other soldiers from Barre, particularly General Samuel Lee, deceased who was then known as "Samuel Lee 3^d." General Lee was a pensioner under the act of 1832,

and this declarant believes that his declaration and the papers in his case may indicate the company and regiment in which her said husband served. She has reason to believe, from hearsay, that he first went into the company of Captain Webb, in the regiment of Col. Jackson; that he was afterwards transferred into other companies and regiments, probably Col. Nixon's, as she has heard her husband speak of him. Her husband also spoke frequently of an officer by the name of William Hull, and they named their first child after him. She understands that he was afterwards General William Hull. She has also heard her husband often speak of one Nelson, who was paymaster, from whom he was unable to get his pay. But for the evidence in her case, and of her husband's services, she must refer to the accompanying evidence, to the papers in the case of General Lee, and to the rolls in the War Department. She will add that she has heard her husband speak of Col. Breton, and he probably might have been in his regiment. She has no documentary evidence of her husband's services, though she distinctly remembers having seen his sergeant's warrant, which is now lost. She further declares that she was married to the said David Hemerway at said Holden, by Esquire John Childs, on the thirtieth day of May, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-seven; that her husband, the aforesaid David Hemerway, died on the—day of November, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-six, and that she has never been married since his death. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-four, to wit: at the time and place above stated.

Polly Hemerway.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above written. Ira Barton.

Judge of the Court of Probate for the said county of Worcester.

I, James Davis, of Holden, in the county of Worcester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being sixty-nine years of age, do depose and say that I am brother to Polly Hemerway, widow of David Hemerway, who deceased about forty years ago. I have heard him tell a great deal about his being in the Revolutionary war, and my belief is that he served to the end of it. He used to tell of serving under Lieutenant, afterwards Capt. Holden, but I do not know in what company or regiment he served. He was killed by the fall of a tree, and my sister, his widow, has never been married since his death.

James Davis.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Worcester, ss: August 27, 1840. Sworn to by said deponent, who is a man of truth. Before me, Ira M. Barton.

Judge of Probate for said County.

I, Stephen Thompson, of Heath, in the county of Franklin, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being seventy-six years of age, do testify and say that I was well acquainted with David Hemerway, deceased, while he lived in this town, and that he died here more than forty years ago. I lived next neighbor to him. I followed him to the grave, and carried his family in my sleigh, and saw him buried. His death was occasioned by a tree falling upon him.

Stephen Thompson.

Heath, May 26, 1840.

Franklin, ss: Heath, May 26th, 1840, personally appeared Stephen Thompson, above named, and made solemn oath that the above deposition by him subscribed is true. Before me, John Hastings, Jr. Justice of the Peace.

Heath, May 26, 1840. I hereby certify that for many years I have been acquainted with the above named Stephen Thompson, and that he is a man of truth and veracity. John Hastings, Jr. Justice of the Peace.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Franklin, ss: I, Elijah Alvord, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of Franklin, do hereby certify that John Hastings, Jr. is a Justice of the Peace for the said county of Franklin's duly commissioned, qualified, and that his several signatures to the two annexed depositions are genuine.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court, at Greenfield, this thirtieth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty.

(Seal.)

E. Alvord, Clerk.

I. Hugh Maxwell, of Heath, county of Franklin, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being seventy years of age, do testify and say that I was well acquainted with David Hemmaway, deceased, while he lived in this town, and that he died here and I saw him buried and assisted at his burial more than forty years ago.

Hugh Maxwell.

Franklin, ss. Heath May 29th. 1840. Personally appeared Hugh Maxwell, signer to the above deposition, and made solemn oath that same is true.

Before me,

John Hastings, Jr. Justice of the Peace.

Heath May 29, 1840. I hereby certify that I have for many years been acquainted with Hugh Maxwell, and that he is a man of truth and veracity.

John Hastings, Jr.

Justice of the Peace.

I. Paul Davis, Town Clerk of Holden in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that I have examined the records in the town of Holden, and find as follows, viz: that David Hemmaway, Hubbardston, and Polly Davis Holden, were married, May thirtieth seventeen hundred eighty seven, by John Child, Just. Pacis.

I further certify that the above is a true copy of the record, with the exception of the date, which is expressed in the record in fair legible figures as follows: "May 30, 1787."

Paul Davis.

Clerk of the town of Holden.

I. Paul Davis, above named, depose and say that I hold the office of Town Clerk in the town of Holden, in the County and State aforesaid, and that the above is a true extract from the records of said Holden, with the exception above named as certified by me.

Paul Davis.

Holden April 14, 1840.

Clerk of the town of Holden.

Sworn before me,

Samuel Saman, Justice of the Peace.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Worcester, ss.

I. Joseph S. Kendall, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for said county of Worcester, do certify that Samuel Saman, Esq. abovenamed, is a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, and that his signature, as above appears, is in his own proper hand writing. In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court, at Worcester, this twentieth day of April, in the year 1840.

(Seal.)

Jos. S. Kendall Clerk.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Worcester, ss.

I. Charles S. Prentiss, Register of the Court of Probate for the County of Worcester, do certify that Charles Chaffin, David Lee, and Lyman Sibley, are Justices of the Peace within and for said county, duly commissioned & qualified, and that their signatures to the papers annexed are genuine.

In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my

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hand, and affix the seal of said Court this fifth
day ^{of May} one thousand eight hundred and forty.
(Seal.) Cha^s E. Prentiss, Register.

Holden, April 14, 1840.

I, Lydia Spring, aged seventy years, depose and
say that my sister Polly Davis, was born in Holden,
Mass. and married David Hemmenway, of Hubbardston,
in May, seventeen hundred eighty-seven. I was present
at the wedding, which was at my father's house
in Holden.

Lydia Spring.

State of Massachusetts,

Worcester, April 14, 1840. Then Lydia Spring above named
personally appeared and made oath that the fore-
going affidavit by her subscribed is true.

Charles Chaffin, Justice Peace.

I certify that I am personally acquainted with Lydia
Spring, and she is a person whose credibility may be
relied on.

Charles Chaffin, Justice Peace.

Worcester, Jr. April 14, 1840.

I, James Davis, being sixty-eight years old,
depose and say that my sister, Polly Davis, was married
to David Hemmenway, of Hubbardston, in May, seventeen
hundred and eighty-seven, at Holden, Massachusetts.

James Davis.

State of Massachusetts,

Worcester, Jr. Apr. 14th, 1840. Then James Davis, above named, personally
appeared and made oath that the foregoing affidavit by
him subscribed is true.

Charles Chaffin, Justice Peace.

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I certify, that James Davis above named is a person
whom I have been personally acquainted with for several
years, and his testimony is to be relied on.

Charles Chaffin, Justice Peace.

Extracts from Town Records, Barre, Massachusetts.

"Article 2. To see in what way or manner the town will
raise eighteen continental soldiers to serve in the Army
of the United States of America for three years, or during
the present war, with Great Britain, it being a quota
of men sent for from this town by an order of the General
Court of this Commonwealth, of December 2^d, 1780, or to
act any thing relative thereto agreeable to the aforesaid
order of Court."

"Dated at Barre, December 30th, 1780."

The meeting was held on the 8th day of January, 1781,
and adjourned to the 18th instant.

"January 18th, 1781. The town met on adjournment, and
voted to class the town in order to raise 18 continental soldiers.

Voted to choose a committee of 18 men, and that the com-
mittee shall only one of them be in a class, and chose
the following persons committee, viz: Ebenezer Rice, Benjamin
Nye, Moses Smith, Nathl. Emerson, Wm. Henry, Andrew Parker,
Asa Hapgood, Richard Mills, Joseph Farrar, Boris Hinds,
John Caldwell, Jr. Capt. John Black, Benjamin Lee, Josiah
Whiting, Timothy Hastings, Ebenezer Chipman, John Black,
Benjamin Robinson. Meeting was adjourned to April
9th, 1781."

"Barre, April 9th, 1781. The town met on adjournment
and proceeded to business, to wit: to call on the classes

for the return of eighteen continental men, that being ~~said~~ town's quota of men, by the order or resolve of the General Court of December 2^d 1780."

"The returns made by the heads of the several classes are as follows, viz:

Class No. 1. Cyrus Edson.

- " 2. Elisha Robinson.
- " 3. David Hemenway.
- " 4. Cushman Edson.
- " 5. James Stevenson.
- " 6. Silas Smith.
- " 7. Titus Homan.
- " 8. Jonathan Childs.
- " 9. Samuel Lee, 3^d.
- " 10. Josiah Barrow.
- " 11. Adam Henry.
- " 12. David Perry.
- " 13. Joseph Barrows.
- " 14. Cornelius Callehorn.
- " 15. John Meriam.
- " 16. Jeremiah Tobie.
- " 17. Sam Hawes, Jr.
- " 18. Israel Hill."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Worcester county, ss. March 23. 1840. I, Lyman Sibley, testify and say that I hold the office of Town Clerk of Barre, in the county and Commonwealth aforesaid, and that the foregoing are extracts from the records of said town, and that they are a true copy of the records.

Lyman Sibley.

Worcester, ss. April 6th, 1840. Personally appeared the above named Lyman Sibley, and made oath to the truth of the facts above subscribed by him. Before me.

David Lee, Just. Peace.

I Jason Hawes, of Barre, in the county of Worcester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being of the age of eighty-one years, and a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States do testify and say that during the Revolutionary war I was well acquainted with David Hemenway, who was then a resident of said Barre, and that said David Hemenway went into the service of the war in July or August in the year 1777. he went to Bennington and served six weeks at that time. I was with him most of the time; our Captain's name was Stockwell; our Lieutenant was Adam Henry, and we were in Col. Job Cushing's regiment. In the year 1781, said David Hemenway enlisted into the service for three years, or during the war with Great Britain, and whether or not he served that term of time I cannot state, but a brother of mine went with him and he served the full term of three years. The officers under whom he served I do not know. I am inclined to believe that said Hemenway served the full term of three years.

Barre April 6th 1840. Jason Hawes.

Worcester, ss. April 6th, 1840. Personally appeared the above named Jason Hawes and made oath that the facts above subscribed by him are true.

Before me.

Lyman Sibley.

Just. Peace.

I certify that for many years I have been acquainted with the above named Jason Hawes, and that he is a man of truth and veracity.

Syman Sibley, Just. Peace.

April 6th, 1840.

I, Seth Smith, of Barre, in the County of Worcester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being of the age of seventy three years, testify and say that when I was a young man I was acquainted with David Hemenway, then a resident of said Barre. Said David Hemenway, during the Revolutionary war went into the service, and as near as I can recollect went south, and I believe went to West Point, and served three months; I do not recollect in what year, nor under what officers he served. In the year 1781, he enlisted into the service for three years or during the war with Great Britain, and when he left town he went from my father's house, and when he returned - it was on Sunday - he came directly to my father's house. I well recollect that he made a present of his cartridge box to me. He was absent as near as I can recollect, three years. I do not know under whom he served, or the names of any of his officers.

Seth Smith.

Barre, Mass. April 4th 1840.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Worcester County, ss.

On the 4th day of April, 1840, then personally appeared the above named Seth Smith, and made oath that the facts above subscribed by him are true. Before me. Syman Sibley, Just. Peace.

I hereby certify that for many years past I have been acquainted with the above named Seth Smith, and that, to my best knowledge, he sustains a reputable character for truth and veracity.

Syman Sibley.

Barre, April 4th, 1840.